

	Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center Policy Manual		Policy Number	106
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	Department: Administration		Revised Date	
	Ethics Committee			

POLICY:

Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center will provide an Ethic Committee to assist residents, family, and providers with decisions about the appropriate use of health care resources and whether certain procedures and treatments are appropriate.

PURPOSE:

Provide support and guidance to residents, families, and the health care team in complex situations in which ethics, values, legal principles, and cultural and religious practice conflict, and potentially affect resident care:

The goals of the committee are as follows:

1. Help clarify the issues.
2. Identify all potential courses of action and decisions.
3. Help the resident, family, and treatment team reach a consensus on a decision.
4. Review the outcome and implications of each case.

PROCEDURE:

The ethics committee is an AD Hoc committee that works jointly with the resident and/or guardian, and physician to decide whether treatments are appropriate and ethical.

- A. The committee is comprised of the Administrator (Superintendent), a physician, the director of nursing or designee, a social worker or psychology specialist and/or others as deemed appropriate.
- B. When ethically complex cases arise, the committee will meet and clarify the case to the resident and/or guardian.
- C. The committee will help the resident and/or guardian weigh all possible options and make recommendations. All possible courses of action and decisions will be explored.
- D. When End-of-Life decisions are involved, the committee is to ensure all options are discussed.